From: Tom.Luther@flextronics.com@inetgw

**To:** Microsoft ATR **Date:** 1/2/02 1:34pm

**Subject:** end the embarrassment of DOJ, quit while you're behind

I'd like to thank the ruling political class for making a mockery of the Constitution, and dragging the DoJ through the mud. So called anti-trust legislation is impossibly broad and famous for the political process used to select victims. Microsoft is only the latest example of what is wrong with the DoJ, DC, and the anti-trust laws that cripple the economy.

Microsoft now pays millions annually in homage to its (now acknowledged) master in DC. The trolls have their pound of flesh, they will crawl beneath their bridges and wait for the next kill. Perhaps it will not be so large or so arrogant as Microsoft. But there are no lack of companies who fail to see the "success trap" embedded in our legal system. It doesn't pay to succeed too well in America. And it's particularly poor practice to not even pay lip service, much less direct graft, to the DC mob. Microsoft made all these mistakes.

The ultimate irony of the "settlement" is that Microsoft has secured a monopoly on public school children. Institutionalizing a monopoly is a comic and fitting end to the litigation.

I suggest that the DoJ quit now, lest the settlement be expanded to "force" Microsoft to supply software to all government organizations (possibly to be later expanded to include all government suppliers and contractors) throughout the US.

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